



A TIMELESS WAY OF LIVING

BY ANN BERTELSEN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID PETERSON
STYLING BY SUDI SCULL

Most mornings when Fred Winslow wakes up, he does what millions of other people do. He takes an invigorating shower. Except, unlike most of us, Winslow steps outside his





house to shower,
wooden platform jut-
The platform has no
and the ground be-

standing on a small,
ting out from the wall.
supporting hand rails
neath drops sharply

away, ending in a small creek at the bottom of a gully. It seems a rather precarious way to take an early morning shower, but Fred Winslow loves it. In fact he thrives on it even in the middle of winter when ice crystals cover the cantilevered platform, making it rather slippery — not to mention downright scary. "But I must confess I love it best about now when the birds are singing and the air is not too bracing," says Winslow, who built the shower himself and says even though he has an inside shower plumbed on the other side of the wall, he has never used it.

Of course if you have the inclination to shower outside, without any walls or even a secluded courtyard for privacy, it's essential to have the right location. Ten years ago when Fred and Barbara Winslow decided to design and build their own house, they discovered a rugged, isolated canyon tucked away in a corner of Lafayette. Today their shingled house, with its red corrugated metal roof, sits on almost eight acres of semi-wilderness at the end of a privately owned dirt road. Its location would

Previous page: The living/dining area is one big open space. "We didn't want to break the room up too much because this area functions as a place for everyone to gather," says Barbara Winslow. "They can retreat into their own corner, or be involved in joint activities all within the one space."

The Winslow residence sits on almost eight acres of semi-wilderness in a canyon in Lafayette. Its corrugated metal roofing adds to the rustic, timeless quality of the house and conjures up images of an old farmhouse. The house is designed around an open courtyard and has two self-contained structures incorporating a teenager's cottage, couple's realm and general area for socializing.

Left: "It's probably everyone's favorite part of the house," says Barbara Winslow, who designed this cozy alcove in her living room, incorporating many "pattern principles" into it. "There is both warmth and light and the built-in seats encourage conversation, or they are great for curling up with a good book." Winslow placed a small window on either side of the fireplace so the area would not have the dark, gloomy look associated with some alcoves. The columns were recycled from an old building and the space between the seats is just wide enough for a small table, so the family often dines there.